

The awarding of \$400,000 to the City of San Diego acknowledges that the City of San Diego has a clear grip (as in CALGRIP) **California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program** of the fundamental building blocks for success in impacting the gang issue in any community – and it is multi-agency cooperation.

The Gang Commission's goal and vision is to:

Develop a more strategic, coordinated, and collaborative effort between the City, law enforcement agencies, social service providers, and the general public with the objective of significantly curtailing gang involvement, and its negative impact, in the City of San Diego.

Working together the San Diego Police Department, the City Park and Recreation Department and SANDAG have developed a grant that builds on that goal. The Commission helped facilitate the discussion but did not write the grant. Donna Warlick of PD was craftsman of it.

The grant's plan is based on the City's Gang Commission's Action Plan key concepts which include:

- A coordinated and organized effort among all City departments, other government and community agencies is required to see results that integrate prevention, intervention, and suppression.
- To be effective, all programs and services focused on gang prevention and intervention must be culturally competent, linguistically sensitive, and accessible to the entire community.

The grant allows the City to:

1. Hire a Youth Recreation Specialist and expanded recreation center hours in targeted areas.
2. Create a multidisciplinary team that includes a Juvenile Services Office assigned to the Gang Unit and a Community Options Specialist who will The COS will provide a vast expansion of the ability to assess not only juveniles' immediate actions, but also family structure, role models, peers, nutrition, health and welfare needs, education, community connectedness, and the myriad variables that contribute to delinquency and gang involvement. The Team will employ a community-based and home-visit model to screen individuals for appropriate prevention methods, engage parents in the prevention model, refer to community services, follow up on the use and effectiveness of services, and avoid formal involvement in the juvenile justice system wherever possible.
3. Hire Criminal Intelligence Analyst¹ who will use our vast bank of intelligence to develop linkages, services and trends that will help our team anticipate problems before they become full-blown ruination. For example, if trends indicate the Incursion of one gang into the turf of another, we can anticipate an increase in violent confrontations and assign extra staff power to provide prevention. If gangs appear to be prone to target specific schools or neighborhoods for young recruits, we can step up prevention and diversion tactics in those areas.

The Grant addresses the key components of prevention, intervention and suppression that impact gang activity in any community:

¹ Selection will be based generally on the County's Class Description, Attached

Prevention:

The City's prevention strategy will be multi faceted involving the Park and Recreation Department's sites in the community as well as working with CBOs like Tariq Khamisa Foundation which works with youth in schools in the target areas providing activities to prevent youth becoming involved with gangs and implementing the Foundation's violence prevention curriculum.

Intervention:

SDPD's Juvenile Services Teams (JST) conduct multi-disciplinary juvenile intervention programs designed to give officers support in assessing youth when they first come into contact with criminal justice, and providing clear alternatives to prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system. The addition of the CalGRIP team will greatly expand our skill and resources in making comprehensive assessments and providing appropriate resources and alternatives to treat the whole child and family, where appropriate. **Breaking Cycles** is San Diego County's collaborative project that represents part of the Comprehensive Plan to address juvenile delinquency

Suppression:

Officials were well aware that a small number of criminals (approximately 6%) were responsible for a large percentage of crimes (approximately 60%). A "shotgun" approach of committing equal resources to all criminals is an ineffective use of resources. It was hypothesized that police resources could have the greatest effect on crime by focusing scarce resources on the most prevalent offenses, and the most prolific criminals. To do so required a new way of organizing and analyzing information. Intelligence Led Policing was developed as a way to focus on key criminal activities. Under this project, SDPD proposes hiring a qualified Project Criminal Intelligence Analyst (PIA) to be assigned to the Gang Unit. The PIA will provide the knowledge, skill and staff power necessary to optimize these new technological abilities.

Evaluation

We have the right ingredients for success in this project. The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) will apply research experience and expertise in documenting the process and impact of the gang prevention project funded through CalGRIP. SANDAG will work in close partnership with SDPD, San Diego Parks and Recreation, and involve community agencies to document the activities provided and the resulting outcomes.

The Gang Commission's strategic action plan states:

- No single program will fix the gang problems in our community. A coordinated and collaborative effort with strong public leadershipis key (page 3 of the plan).